

# NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**RONALD J. TENPAS  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

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***For Immediate Release***

***FEBRUARY 3, 2005***

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that **RONALD E. GIPSON**, age 27, of Alton, Illinois, was sentenced today in Federal District Court for the federal felony offense of knowingly and intentionally possessing in excess of 5 grams of cocaine base, commonly known as “crack cocaine” in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 844(a). **GIPSON** was sentenced to a term of 108 months’ imprisonment without parole, a \$500 fine, a \$100 special assessment, and upon completion of his imprisonment, a 3-year period of supervised release. **GIPSON** had entered a guilty plea to the described felony offense on August 20, 2004.

**RONALD E. GIPSON** was arrested in Alton, Illinois, on October 28, 2003, by Alton Police Officers, and has remained in custody since his arrest. On October 28, 2003, Alton Police observed **GIPSON** walking in an Alton neighborhood and attempted to execute an arrest of **GIPSON** as he was wanted on several warrants. Upon approaching **GIPSON**, he fled on foot. Officers pursued **GIPSON** and eventually caught him. **GIPSON** struggled with the officers and was observed to throw down a “baggie” which was retrieved by police. The baggie contained a white chalk-like substance. Laboratory analysis determined the substance within the mentioned baggie to be 6.2 grams of cocaine base.

The investigation and prosecution of this case was a cooperative effort of the City of Alton Police Department, the Madison County State’s Attorney’s Office, and the United States Attorney’s Office. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Thomas M. Daly through the law enforcement cooperative effort employed in the Alton Weed and Seed program.